Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for enhancing preservative efficacy of [[a]] an ophthalmic composition, the composition comprising ~~including a preservative effective amount and a soluble amount of a~~

0.001 wt% to 0.05 wt% of zinc, ~~compound, wherein the composition has less than a preservative effective amount of a primary~~

an organic, nitrogen-containing preservative agent,

a borate buffer, and

0 wt% to 0.01 wt% of a chelating agent, wherein the composition has an osmolality of from 225 mOsm.kg to 400 mOsm/kg.

Claims 2. – 5. Canceled

6. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~5, wherein the polycationic material is~~ 1, further comprising a cationic cellulosic polymer.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the composition has a minimum of ~~about~~ 0.001 wt.% and a maximum of ~~about~~ 0.5 wt.% cationic cellulosic polymer ~~based upon the weight of the composition~~.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim [[5]] 7, wherein the ~~polycationic material~~ cationic cellulosic polymer is Polymer JR.

Claims 9. – 12. Canceled

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the composition further comprises a therapeutically effective amount of therapeutic agent selected from the group comprising glaucoma agents, muscarinics, carbonic anhydrase inhibitors, dopaminergic agonists and antagonists, anti-infectives, non-steroidal and

steroidal anti-inflammatories, prostaglandins, enzymes, growth factors, anti-allergics, beta-blockers and mixtures and combinations thereof.

Claims 14. – 24. Canceled

25. (currently amended) The ~~composition of claim 14, having~~ method of claim 1, wherein the composition has the form of an eye drop solution.

26. (currently amended) The ~~composition of claim 14, having~~ method of claim 1, wherein the composition has the form of a contact lens treating solution.

27. (currently amended) The ~~composition of claim 14, having~~ method of claim 1, wherein the composition is suitable for direct instillation in the eye without causing irritation to eye tissue.

Claims 28. Canceled

29. (currently amended) An ophthalmic composition comprising:

water;

~~at least one therapeutic agent in a therapeutically effective amount; and~~

~~a preservative effective amount and a soluble amount of a zinc compound~~

0.001 wt% to 0.05 wt% of zinc,

an organic, nitrogen-containing preservative agent,

a borate buffer, and

0 wt% to 0.01 wt% of a chelating agent, wherein the composition has an osmolality of from 225 mOsm/kg to 400 mOsm/kg.

Claims 30. – 34. Canceled

35. (currently amended) The composition of claim ~~34, wherein the cationic polysaccharide includes~~ 29, further comprising a cationic cellulosic polymer.

36. (currently amended) The composition of claim [[34]] 35, wherein the composition has a minimum of ~~about~~ 0.001 wt.% and a maximum of ~~about~~ 0.5 wt.% of cationic cellulosic polymer ~~based upon the total weight of the polymer~~.

37. (currently amended) The composition of claim [[33]] 36, wherein the ~~polycationic material~~ cationic cellulosic polymer is Polymer JR.

Claims 38. – 39. Canceled

40. (original) The composition of claim 29, having the form of an eye drop solution.

41. (original) The composition of claim 29, having the form of a contact lens treating solution.

42. (original) The composition of claim 29, being suitable for direct instillation in the eye without irritation to eye tissue.

43. (currently amended) The composition of claim 29, ~~wherein the~~ further comprising a therapeutic agent is selected from the group consisting of glaucoma agents, muscarinics, carbonic anhydrase inhibitors, dopaminergic agonists and antagonists, anti-infectives, non-steroidal and steroidal anti-inflammatories**,** prostaglandins, enzymes, growth factors, anti-allergics, beta-blockers and mixtures and combinations thereof.

44. (currently amended) A method of treating an ophthalmic condition comprising administering a composition of claim 43 ~~comprising water, a therapeutically effective amount of a therapeutic agent and a preservative effective amount and a soluble amount of a zinc compound~~.

Claims 45. – 78. Canceled